

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) A method for processing residual gas, comprising:
providing a chamber;
introducing residual gas into the chamber, the residual gas having a first toxic level;
introducing an inert gas;
diluting the residual gas;
introducing a reactive gas into the chamber to cause a reaction between the diluted residual gas and the reactive gas to produce a mixed gas;
outputting the mixed gas from the chamber, the mixed gas having a toxic level lower than the first toxic level; and
providing a powder-collection apparatus to allow continuous removal from the chamber and the powder-collection apparatus of powder produced by the reaction of the residual gas, the inert gas and the reactive gas in the chamber.

17. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising a step of exhausting the residual gas, the inert gas and the mixed gas from a gas outlet mechanism into a wet scrubber.

18. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the powder-collection apparatus is coupled to the chamber via a first gate and a second gate.

19. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising a step of providing at least one baffle in the chamber to increase the path traveled by the diluted residual gas and reactive gas in the chamber.

20. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising a step of cooling the chamber with a water-cooling pipe.

21. (previously presented) A method for processing residual gas, comprising:

- providing a chamber;
- introducing residual gas into the chamber, the residual gas having a first toxic level;
- introducing an inert gas;
- diluting the residual gas;
- introducing a reactive gas into the chamber to cause a reaction between the diluted residual gas and reactive gas to produce a mixed gas;
- outputting the mixed gas from the chamber, the mixed gas having a toxic level lower than the first toxic level; and

providing a powder-collection apparatus coupled to the chamber via a first gate and a second gate, wherein, during an operation of the chamber, said first gate and said second gate collectively operate to allow continuous removal of powder from the powder-collection apparatus without interruption of the operation of the chamber.

22. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, further comprising a step of exhausting the residual gas, the inert gas, and the mixed gas from a gas outlet mechanism into a wet scrubber.

23. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, further comprising a step of providing at least one baffle in the chamber to increase the path traveled by the diluted residual gas and the reactive gas in the chamber.

24. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, further comprising a step of cooling the chamber with a water-cooling pipe.